

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 738

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to commend Tabitha Hope Dickey for exemplary service as a legislative intern.

WHEREAS, each legislative session this body is pleased to recognize certain persons who have committed themselves, through their adroit service, to the betterment of the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, Tabitha Hope Dickey is one such individual who has distinguished herself in her role as a legislative intern for Senator Randy McNally and the Senate Education Committee; Tabitha's work has resulted in innumerable benefits for the legislators she assisted and the General Assembly as a whole; and

WHEREAS, a student at Freed-Hardeman University, where she is highly regarded by her peers, Tabitha has achieved academic success while majoring in History and participating in numerous extracurricular activities; and

WHEREAS, born in Waycross, Georgia to Eddy and Deane Dickey, Tabitha and her three siblings moved often as the family followed her father's calling as a Minister; the family lived in West Virginia, South Carolina, as well as Georgia during her years in kindergarten and elementary school; and

WHEREAS, her high school years were spent in five different schools in Georgia, Mississippi, and Alabama, and Ms. Dickey graduated from Hanceville High School in Alabama as Salutatorian despite the fact that she did not attend there all four years; she coped with the hardships of leaving friends by developing an interest in singing and songwriting, being adept at both the piano and guitar; and

WHEREAS, an Honor Society member, Tabitha earned a composite 31 on her ACT and was offered scholarships at four institutions of higher learning; she entered Freed-Hardeman in 1998 with a major in Business Administration-Management, switching to History midway through her college career and receiving the Ruth Thompson Memorial Scholarship at the end of her Junior year; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her academic pursuits, Ms. Dickey served as a clerical aide in the Alabama State Employment Office in Cullman in 1997, as a manager at Carlton's Italian in Hanceville from 1997-98, as a clerical aide at the Jean Deese Insurance Agency in Cullman in 2000, as an intern in the Jackson Field Office of U. S. Senator Bill Frist, and as Rock Music Director of Station 91.5 WFHC in Henderson, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, her major in History led Tabitha into an interest in politics; besides interning for Senator Frist, she assisted Madison County Republicans in the Bush-Cheney campaign, interviewed State Senatorial candidates Mayor Bob Shutt and Lieutenant Governor John S. Wilder, and participated in the Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature for two years; and

WHEREAS, eager to familiarize herself with the characteristics and complexity of Tennessee state government and to further her studies, Tabitha Dickey brought her many abilities and singular expertise to Capitol Hill for the 2002 session of the One Hundred Second General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Tabitha's strong Christian faith has sustained her throughout her life; in addition to her more secular enthusiasm for music, songwriting and performing, she is totally committed to frequent snacks and is a great supporter of Georgia Bulldog athletics, enduring a strong buffet early in the NCAA basketball tournament; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 2001 legislative session, Ms. Dickey has surpassed all criteria that define a devoted and conscientious legislative intern; and

WHEREAS, Tabitha has performed her many duties with extraordinary insight and rare decorum; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby commend Tabitha Hope Dickey for outstanding service as a legislative intern for Senator Randy McNally and the Senate Education Committee and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.